(c) the steps since taken to revive the constructive public interest transactions ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR) : (a) It is not correct to say that investment activities have come to a halt since an amount of Rs. 6700 crores capital was estimated to have been raised in the primary market for securities by companies during April--September 1992, as against Rs. 5749 crores during the year 1991-92.

(b) and (c) In view of above the questions do not arise.

Income-tax and Wealth-tax return filed by Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu

2309. SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Tamil Nadu Chief Minister filed income-tax or wealth-tax returns during the last three financial years; and

(b) if so, whether any arrears are pending in the payment of taxes ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR) : (a) Returns for the last three years have been filed.

(b) No, Sir.

Financial crisis faced by special category States

2310. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that special category States of the country are in a financial crisis;

(b) if so, what steps Government have taken to help these States out of crisis;

(c) whether it is a fact that Government of Himachal Pradesh has given a formula to the Central Government towards the solution of the crisis; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof and action taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SHANTA RAM POTDUKHE) : (a) Yes, Sir. Some of the special category States like Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Manipur, Nagaland and Tripura are in financial crisis during the current financial year.

(b) Transfer of resources to States are made on the recommendations of the Finance Commission and the Planning Commission. The States' entitlements are released on monthly quarterly basis or reimbursed on the basis of claims filed by the State Governments. States in overdraft were advised to take steps to come out of the overdraft. When the overdraft persisted, State's entitlements were preponed to assist them in coming out of overdraft.

(c) and (d) A statement is enclosed.

Statement

Government of Himachal Pradesh have made the following alternative suggestions to the Government of India towards the solution of the financial crisis of the State :--

(i) Grant of annual Special Central assistance of at least Rs. 200 crores per annum to the State Government;

(ii) To allow the State Government 12% free power on all Hydel Projects located in Himachal Pradesh irrespective of the date of commissioning of such projects; and

(iii) Clearance of the bill submitted by the State Government to the Government of India for allowing them to levy duty on generation of electricity within the territory of Himachal Pradesh.

The suggestions made above by the State Government are under consideration of the Government of India.